

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

CPG #NM-632

Application of Green Mountain College for a                    )  
certificate of public good for an interconnected net            )  
metered biomass electrical power system                        )

Order entered: 8/25/2009

**I. INTRODUCTION**

This case involves an application filed by Green Mountain College ("Applicant"), on August 11, 2009, requesting a certificate of public good ("CPG"), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248 and Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") Rule 5.100, for a net metering system.<sup>1</sup> The net metering system consists of a 150 kW electric generator powered by steam produced from a wood chip heating plant boiler system.

Notice of the application has been sent to all parties as specified in the Board's Rule 5.100. The notice stated that any party wishing to submit comments or request a hearing in this matter needed to file comments with the Board within thirty (30) working days of the date that the notice of the application was sent.

On May 8, 2009, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation ("CVPS") filed comments on the project citing system reliability and safety concerns raised by the project. On June 26, 2009, CVPS filed a letter with the Board stating that it had resolved its concerns after consulting with the Applicant. CVPS also requested that certain conditions be included in the CPG to assure system reliability and safety: (1) the inrush current drawn by the system shall not exceed 83.7 amps at primary voltage; (2) Green Mountain College shall enter into a binding Operating Protocol with CVPS prior to interconnecting the system; (3) the system will include a system shutdown switch that will be located proximate to the system disconnect switch; (4) the Applicant shall continue to provide protection scheme information and settings to CVPS for their review.

No other comments have been received from any other parties or interested persons.

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1. The application was originally filed on April 17, 2009, but was not completed until August 11, 2009.

The Board has reviewed the application and accompanying documents and agrees that, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248 and the Board's Rule 5.100, a CPG including the conditions related to system reliability and safety proposed by CVPS, should be issued without further investigation or hearing.

## **II. FINDINGS**

Based upon the application and its accompanying documents, the Board makes the following findings in this matter.

1. The proposed net metering project will be on property owned by the Applicant and located at One Brennan Circle in Poultney, Vermont. Application at Section 1.
2. The proposed net metering facility is to be housed within a new building. Application at attachment.
3. The proposed project consists of a photovoltaic electrical generation system with a power output of 150 kW AC. The facility will be interconnected with the CVPS electrical distribution system. Application at Section 7 and attachment.
4. Applicant has certified that the project is in compliance with all of the provisions of Sections 3 and 9 of the application. Based on these submissions, we conclude that the project does not raise a significant issue with respect to the environmental criteria of 30 V.S.A. § 248. Application at Sections 3 and 9.
5. Applicant has certified compliance with the insurance requirements as set forth in Section 3 of the application. Application at Section 3.

## **III. CONCLUSION**

In Docket No. 6181,<sup>2</sup> the Board developed a net metering program in accordance with the statutory requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 219a. This program was further refined by the Board with the adoption of Board Rule 5.100 on March 1, 2001. The goals of the Order and Rule are to encourage private investment in renewable energy resources, stimulate the economic growth of the state and enhance the continued diversification of energy sources used in Vermont. The

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2. *Investigation into the Use of A Net Metering System for the Purchase and Sale of Electricity from Small Electrical Generating Systems to and from Electric Companies*, Docket No. 6181, April 21, 1999.

standards and requirements adopted in the Order and Rule have been determined by the Board to protect public safety and system reliability.

Based upon the findings and evidence, including the conditions related to system reliability and safety proposed by CVPS, the proposed net metering project will be in compliance with the requirements of the Board's Order in Docket No. 6181 and Rule 5.100, the application does not raise a significant issue with respect to the substantive criteria of 30 V.S.A. § 248, and the proposed project will promote the general good of the state.

#### **IV. ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont that the proposed net metering system, in accordance with the evidence and plans submitted in this proceeding, will promote the general good of the State of Vermont pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 219a, and a certificate of public good to that effect shall be issued in this matter, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 219a and 248.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

<u>s/James Volz</u>	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: August 25, 2009

Attest: s/Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*

*Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.*